



NEWS

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CYA SUPERINTENDENT EUGENIA ORTEGA HONORED AS LATINA PEACE OFFICER OF THE YEAR

SACRAMENTO--California Youth Authority (CYA) Superintendent Eugenia Ortega will be honored as the Latina Peace Officer of the Year by the Sacramento Chapter of the Latino Peace Officers Association (LPOA). She will be presented with the award at a fundraising dinner sponsored by the organization from 6 to 9 p.m. on August 12, 2000, at 905 Piedmont Drive in Sacramento.

Ms. Ortega, a resident of Elk Grove, is a 20-year veteran with the CYA and has been superintendent of Karl Holton Youth Correctional Drug and Alcohol Treatment Facility in Stockton since April 1999. She has had an extensive background with the department, serving in a variety of management positions throughout the state. She is being recognized by LPOA for her leadership and community service work. Her community service record includes work with drug abuse centers, youth services programs, mentoring and literacy programs.

The award will be presented at the organization's Summer Carnitas Festival in an outdoor setting at the Vargas House on the Sacramento River, with a sailboat that will be available for rides on the river. Proceeds from this event will benefit a scholarship fund for community youth.

LPOA is one of the largest Latino law enforcement organizations in the United States with chapters serving communities from California to New York. Members consist of peace officers from federal, state, and local levels throughout the country.

The organization promotes equality and professionalism in law enforcement and provides career training, mentoring, conferences and workshops to promote education, and career advancement, and fosters a strong commitment to community service. LPOA maintains an academic scholarship program and continues to develop and operate community based programs aimed at preventing and reducing juvenile delinquency. LPOA members also work at reducing neighborhood tensions through awareness programs and role model programs.

The CYA provides institutional training and parole supervision for juvenile and young adult offenders. The department also works with community organizations, local law enforcement and other agencies on gang and drug suppression and delinquency prevention activities.

The department is responsible for 12,300 juvenile and young adult offenders, with 7,500 in 11 institutions and four conservation camps, and 4,800 on parole. In addition, more than 16,000 crime victims are on record to receive services from the department.